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November 1983

paper board packaging

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Flexo Press Project Report

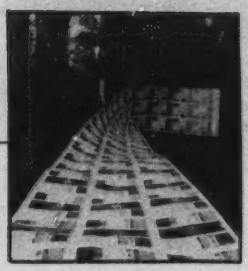
A TAPPI PUBLICATION

paper board packaging

NOVEMBER 1983 VOLUME 68, NO. 11

On the Cover:

This flexo roll sample was pulled from an entire press as the sequence of colors was being individually laid down. This Zerand innovation is described in a feature beginning on page 28. (Photography by Jeff Frey)



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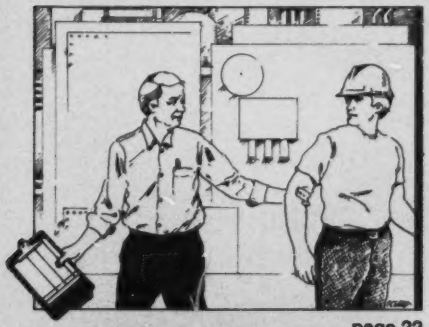

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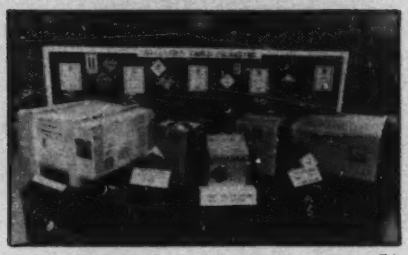

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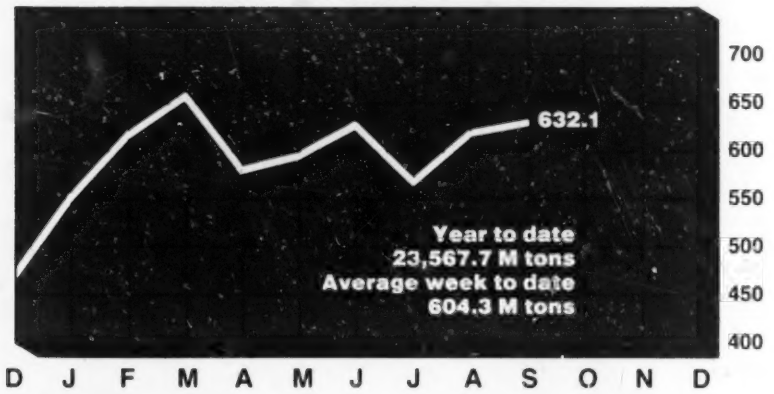
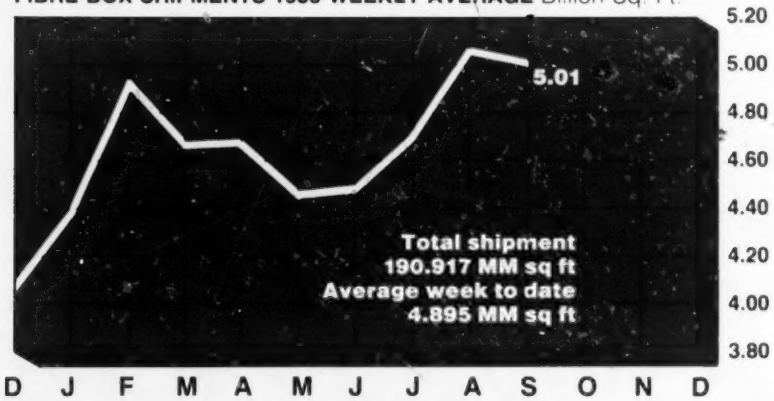
INDUSTRY STATISTICS

PAPERBOARD PRODUCTION 1983-WEEKLY AVERAGE 1,000 Tons



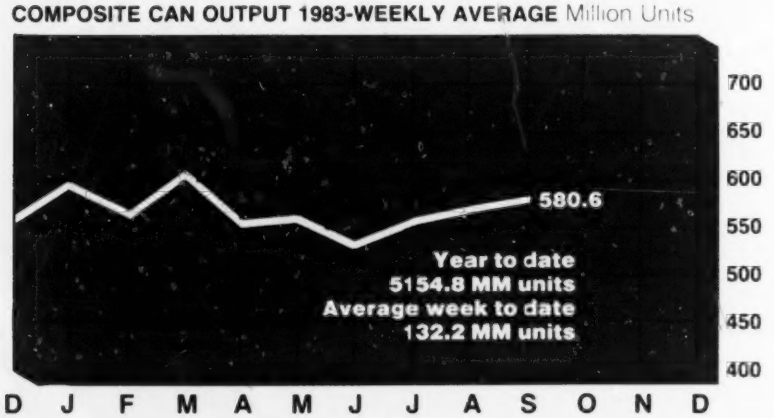
PAPERBOARD MILL OPERATIONS:
The first three quarters of 1983 concluded with average-week board output 7.7% ahead of same-period 1982 tonnage, compared with a 9.2% drop in '82 from '81, a 3.8% rise in '81 from '80, a 1% drop in '80 from '79, and a 3.3% rise in '79 from '78. Thus goes the typical annual seesaw. However, total tonnage at this September-end was, in fact, slightly above that volume in the all-time-high production year of 1979. Further, output during the August/September period was 9.6% up from last year—evidently a strongly founded trend of improvement.

FIBRE BOX SHIPMENTS 1983-WEEKLY AVERAGE Billion Sq. Ft.



PAPERBOARD-TYPE PRODUCTION:
In September, 2717.6 M total tons of output—up 9.9% from '82—appeared as 2016.9 M of containerboard grades—up 11.3%—and 700.7 M of boxboards—up 6.1%—according to projections from the American Paper Institute's "production by furnish" data. This 2.88-to-1 tonnage ratio compares most unfavorably with the traditional 2-to-1 of more normal economic times, and would seem to substantiate informal reports that improvements are less than robust from boxboard grades, but no longer reported by compilers.

COMPOSITE CAN OUTPUT 1983-WEEKLY AVERAGE Million Units



RIGID PAPER BOXES:
Three quarters of the way through 1983, major set-up boxmakers report a rise of some 10% in total billings from '82, compared with a decrease of 8% in '82 from '81, a rise of 10% in '81 from '80, of 6% in '80 over '79, and of 8.7% in '79 from '78. The general reduction in money available for non-essentials in recent years is clearly having an effect on the rigid box, normally associated with much "luxury" packaging. The toehold of geography continues also, with high-unemployment areas affected more strongly than others.